UNCANNY INHUMANS 12

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HARVEY M TOLIBAO + JASON!

Thousands of years ago aliens experimented on cavemen, supercharging their evolution, and then mysteriously left their experiments behind. These men and women built the city of Attilan and discovered a chemical called Terrigen that unlocked secret super-powers in their modified DNA, making them...

THE UNCANNY INHUMANS

MEDUSA

FRANK McGEE

ISO

BLACK BOLT

KARNAK

Using a prediction provided by Ulysses, a young Inhuman with the ability to perceive the events of the future, Earth's mightiest heroes came together to stop a being of cosmic power from destroying the world. Another of Ulysses' visions allowed the heroes to apprehend the Mad Titan Thanos, but not without a cost—Colonel James Rhodes, a.k.a. War Machine, lost his life in the battle.

Already wary of Ulysses' power, Tony Stark, the Invincible Iron Man, was pushed over the edge: he invaded New Attilan and kidnapped Ulysses. Queen Medusa acted swiftly, mobilizing her people to rescue their brother, and in the end she showed Stark mercy, choosing not to retaliate further. But there are those among her people who find that position weak and have decided to take more decisive action...

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WE'RE LOOKING AT WHAT WAS ONCE STARK TOWER, HEADQUARTERS OF THE MULTINATIONAL CORPORATION OWNED AND OPERATED BY TONY STARK, ALSO KNOWN AS IRON MAN.
THE STRUCTURE COLLAPSED EARLY THIS MORNING, JUST AFTER DAWN.
CASUALTY REPORTS WON'T BE RELEASED FOR SOME TIME YET. WE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT, DUE TO THE EARLY HOUR, THE BUILDING WAS ALL BUT EMPTY WHEN IT FELL.
NEW ATTILAN.
HOME OF THE INHUMANS.
NO GROUP HAS YET CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS ACT, BUT WE WILL BE COVERING THE SITUATION AS IT DEVELOPS, AND--
YOUR ORDERS, MY QUEEN?
SEAL THE CITY, KARNAK. FULL LOCKDOWN.

WHRRRRR

KCCCHK

INSIDE THE GATES, QUICKLY! THE BLAST SHIELDS ARE COMING DOWN!

KTHR

OF COURSE, YOUR MAJESTY. BUT MEDUSA, I MUST ASK-- STARK TOWER FALLS, AND WE IMMEDIATELY CLOSE OFF AND FORTIFY NEW ATTILAN--

--WILL IT NOT SEEM LIKE A SIGNAL TO THE WORLD OF OUR *GUILT?*

I DO NOT CARE ABOUT THE *WORLD,* KARNAK.

I CARE ABOUT *TONY STARK.*

WE JUST COMPLETED A STRIKE ON EVERY ASPECT OF HIS PERSONAL LIFE--HIS MONEY, HIS POSSESSIONS...WE EXPOSED HIM TO THE WORLD AS NOT AN IRON MAN... BUT A MAN.

AND NOW HIS HOME HAS BEEN DESTROYED. WE DID NOT DO IT, BUT WHO DO YOU THINK HE WILL BLAME?

STARK IS COMING FOR US, KARNAK.

IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME.

WE GOT YOUR CALL, MEDUSA. WHAT DO YOU NEED?

CAN'T BE ANYTHING GOOD IF YOU ACTIVATED THE CITY'S FORTRESS MODE.

IT'S NOT. I AM ABOUT TO LEAVE TO DEAL WITH IT. *FRANK McGEE,* YOU WILL JOIN ME. I NEED YOUR DETECTIVE'S MIND.

ISO, YOU WILL REMAIN HERE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT, IN MY ABSENCE, NEW ATTILAN WILL BE ATTACKED.

SO I AM LEAVING YOU IN CHARGE OF THE CITY'S DEFENSE. YOU'LL ALSO NEED TO SEND SOME OF OUR PEOPLE TO HELP AT STARK TOWER, HOWEVER THEY CAN.

GET KAMALA KHAN, IF POSSIBLE. SHE'S GENERALLY SEEN AS NEUTRAL.

ME? BUT I'M NOT...

YES, YOU ARE. I TRUST YOU IMPLICITLY. KEEP YOUR FELLOW INHUMANS SAFE. I WILL SEND YOU HELP IF I CAN.

SZZZACK
HELLO, LOCKJAW.
WHF!
WHERE ARE WE HEADED, MEDUSA?
TO FIND ANSWERS, FRANK.
WE DID NOT BRING DOWN STARK TOWER, BUT IRON MAN WILL ASSUME THAT WE DID.
IF HE BRINGS HIS FULL STRENGTH AGAINST US...I BELIEVE WE WOULD WIN.
BUT THE COST IS NOT ONE I WOULD LIKE TO PAY.
SO WE MUST END THE CONFLICT BEFORE IT GETS THAT FAR. I SEE ONLY ONE WAY TO DO THAT.
NEW ATTILAN DID NOT DESTROY STARK TOWER...
...BUT WE NEED TO TELL IRON MAN WHO DID.

SWITZERLAND.
TEN MILES NORTH OF ZURICH.
STARK
EVERYONE UNDERSTANDS THEIR ASSIGNED ROLE?
WE DO, LASH. WE WON'T FAIL YOU.
I KNOW YOU WON'T, MOTHER BONES.
BEGIN, SERRATA.
BUZZ BUZZ, BOSS.
VRRRRRRR
BUZZ. BUZZ.
AND NOW YOU, GROVE.
GET US SOME ATTENTION.
YOU GOT IT, LASH. I'LL BRIGHTEN THINGS RIGHT UP. DON'T YOU WORRY.

HAAAAAA--
--CHA!
WAS IST DAS?
SCHÖN...
WHAT THE HELL? YOU THINK WE SHOULD CHECK IT OUT?
ABSOLUTELY. THE BOSS HAS EVERY *STARK* FACILITY IN THE WORLD ON ALERT LEVEL 9--THAT MEANS HE THINKS AN ATTACK IS IMMINENT.
SCRAMBLE A CREW. BRING SOME OF THE DRONES. WE NEED TO GET UP THERE!
EXCELLENT.

THE QUIET ROOM.
INHUMAN SPEAKEASY BENEATH GRAND CENTRAL STATION. OFFICE OF BLACKAGAR BOLTAGON--FORMER KING OF THE INHUMANS.
I HAVE A QUESTION, BLACK BOLT.
YOU HAVE HEARD ABOUT THE RECENT PERSONAL ATTACKS ON TONY STARK'S PRIVATE LIFE, AS WELL AS THE DESTRUCTION OF STARK TOWER.
I AUTHORIZED THE FORMER, AS RETALIATION FOR HIS TRANSGRESSION AGAINST OUR SOVEREIGNTY.
THE SECOND...I DID NOT. AND SO, MY QUESTION--
--DID YOU?
NO. OF COURSE YOU DIDN'T.
IF YOU ARE WILLING, I NEED YOU TO GO TO NEW ATTILAN TO HELP DEFEND THE CITY IF STARK ATTACKS.
YOU WILL NOT BE IN NEW ATTILAN YOURSELF, YOUR MAJESTY?
NO, FLAGMAN. I WILL KEEP LOOKING FOR THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING DOWN THE TOWER.
HONESTLY, A MAN LIKE TONY STARK HAS SO MANY ENEMIES, AND ANY ONE OF THEM COULD HAVE DONE THIS. I'M NOT SURE HOW I'LL--

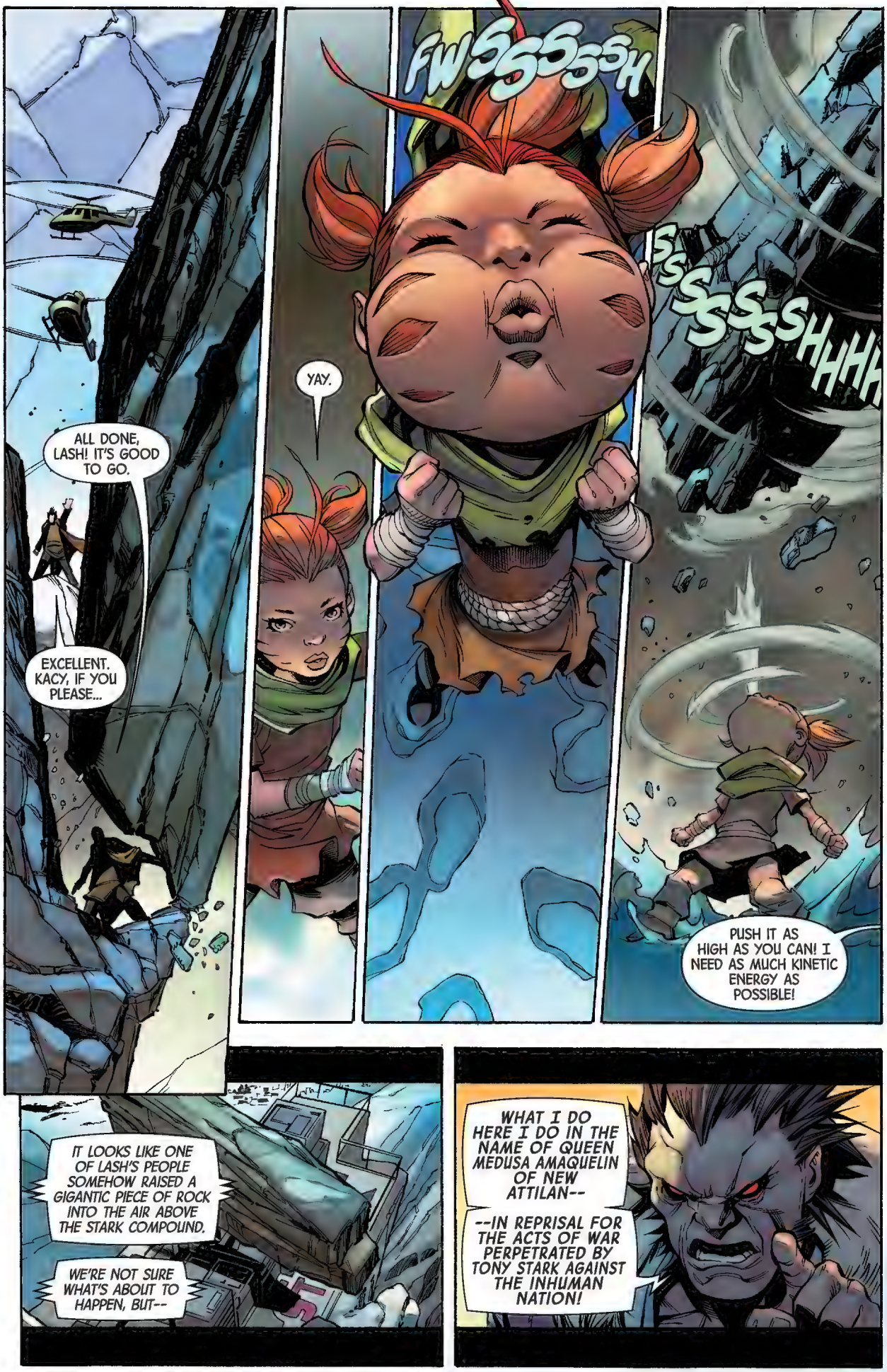
YOU KNOW...
...WE PROBABLY WANT TO START BY CROSSING INHUMANS OFF THE LIST, RIGHT?
IF STARK DOES COME AFTER US, IF WE CAN PROVE WE DIDN'T DO IT, THAT'S ALMOST AS GOOD AS TELLING HIM WHO DID.
QUIET ROOM
SO. WE'RE LOOKING FOR A REALLY POWERFUL INHUMAN. STRONG ENOUGH TO PULL DOWN A BUILDING, OR WITH A GROUP WHO COULD GET IT DONE.
SOMEONE WHO MIGHT GET PRETTY TICKED IF THEY THOUGHT TONY STARK HAD DISRESPECTED NEW ATTILAN.
SOMEONE WHO WAS MAYBE RAISED THERE.
AND I GOTTA TELL YA...ONE NAME COMES TO MIND RIGHT AWAY.
BY THE MISTS...YOU DON'T THINK...
OH, DEAR. HE'S TALKING ABOUT THE PRINCE.

SWITZERLAND.
ALMOST THROUGH, LASH!
JUST NEED LIKE TEN MORE MINUTES!
MM. WE NEED TO BUY SOME TIME.
MOTHER BONES. TAKE GROVE AND THE TERRORS.
DON'T LET STARK'S FORCES GET UP THIS MOUNTAIN.
WE'LL THROW THEM STRAIGHT DOWN TO HELL, LASH.
HELLO, BOYS!
MAMA'S HERE!

VENICE, ITALY.
SZZZRM
WHOA. IS THIS VENICE?
YES. ONE OF MY FAVORITE CITIES. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN?
WELL... TO THE ONE IN VEGAS.
WHY ARE WE HERE? I THOUGHT--
BECAUSE ENNILUX IS HERE.
BUT ISN'T ENNILUX A GIANT CORPORATION? THIS LOOKS LIKE SOME OLD MUSEUM, MAYBE A CHURCH.
APPEARANCES CAN BE DECEIVING.
NOW, LET'S GO SEE MY SON.

HELLO, MOTHER.
OFFICE OF AHURA BOLTAGON.
ENNILUX C.E.O.
YOU'VE GOTTEN BETTER WITH YOUR POWERS, AHURA.
OH, YES. THE GHOSTS ARE INCREDIBLY HELPFUL WHEN IT COMES TO RUNNING ENNILUX. I CAN KEEP FOUR GOING AT ONCE NOW.
THEY'VE FREED UP MY TIME TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE COMPANY'S HISTORY. IT'S BEEN OPERATING FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, AFTER ALL.
YOU WOULDN'T *BELIEVE* WHAT'S STASHED AWAY IN ITS VAULTS. I WAS JUST REVIEWING THE ACTUAL PLANS FOR ARCHIMEDES' DEATH RAY, AND THERE'S A DA VINCI--
ENOUGH. PLEASE, SON. WE NEED TO TALK. WITHOUT THE GHOSTS. I WANT TO SEE YOUR EYES.
VERY WELL. WHAT SHOULD WE TALK ABOUT?
ABOUT *THAT.*

WHAT ABOUT IT? LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE FINALLY DECIDED TO TAKE DOWN IRON MAN.
I'M SURE HE HAD IT COMING.
IT OCCURS TO ME, AHURA, THAT THE DESTRUCTION OF STARK'S COMPANY MIGHT BE QUITE A BOON TO ITS COMPETITORS.
SUCH AS, FOR EXAMPLE, THE LARGE MULTINATIONAL CORPORATION YOU NOW RUN.
OH, MOTHER...YOU DON'T SERIOUSLY THINK I WOULD...
THERE WERE PEOPLE IN THAT BUILDING WHEN IT FELL. NOT MANY, BUT SOME.
BUSINESS IS WAR, BUT THAT IS A STEP TOO FAR.
YOUR CONFIDENCE IN MY CHARACTER IS INSPIRING, BUT NO, I DID NOT BRING DOWN STARK TOWER.
IT WAS PROBABLY DOOM OR ONE OF THOSE OTHER MANIACS. I SERIOUSLY DOUBT IT HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE INHUM--
WE'RE BREAKING IN WITH LIVE FOOTAGE OF AN ASSAULT ON A STARK FACILITY OUTSIDE ZURICH, SWITZERLAND.
REPORTS ARE COMING IN OF SIMILAR ATTACKS ON STARK HOLDINGS ACROSS THE GLOBE, OCCURRING SIMULTANEOUSLY IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A COORDINATED EFFORT.
THE LEADER OF THE SWISS ATTACK APPEARS TO BE THE INHUMAN TERRORIST KNOWN AS LASH, AND--
OH, NO.


ALL DONE, LASH! IT'S GOOD TO GO.
EXCELLENT. KACY, IF YOU PLEASE...
YAY.
FWSSSSSSH
SSSSSSSSHHHH
PUSH IT AS HIGH AS YOU CAN! I NEED AS MUCH KINETIC ENERGY AS POSSIBLE!
IT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF LASH'S PEOPLE SOMEHOW RAISED A GIGANTIC PIECE OF ROCK INTO THE AIR ABOVE THE STARK COMPOUND.
WE'RE NOT SURE WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN, BUT--
WHAT I DO HERE I DO IN THE NAME OF QUEEN MEDUSA AMAQUELIN OF NEW ATTILAN--
--IN REPRISAL FOR THE ACTS OF WAR PERPETRATED BY TONY STARK AGAINST THE INHUMAN NATION!

DROP IT.

OH, MY GOD. THEY LET IT GO. THE...THE STONE IS FALLING. IT'S--

AND SO, KINETIC ENERGY...

...BECOMES *HEAT.*

KTHOOOOM

SZZZRM
WHA--
WHY?
AGH!
SZK
SZK
WHY?

SIT DOWN AND BE QUIET, LITTLE GIRL.
BEFORE YOU GET HURT.
TELL ME, LASH.
TELL ME OR DIE.
LET'S TAKE 'EM DOWN, ENNILUX!
WHY DID YOU DO THIS?

GREENLAND.
THE HIDDEN CITY OF OROLLAN. EARLIER.
WHY ARE YOU HERE, MAXIMUS?
WELL, YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH MY REPUTATION, RIGHT?
GIFTED. JEALOUS. UNSTABLE.
WOW. IT'S LIKE YOU'VE KNOWN ME ALL MY LIFE.
I'M PUTTING SOMETHING TOGETHER. IT'S GOT A LOT OF MOVING PARTS, AND I'LL NEED SOME MANPOWER TO PULL IT OFF.
POWERFUL MANPOWER. INHUMAN MANPOWER. AND OF COURSE, I THOUGHT OF THE HIGH CLERIC OF OROLLAN FIRST.
WHY WOULD I HELP YOU WITH ANYTHING?
WELL, TELL ME, LASH. HOW MANY TIMES HAS MY SISTER-IN-LAW KICKED YOUR ASS? TWICE THAT I KNOW OF.
MEDUSA. YOU ARE GOING AGAINST MEDUSA? WHY? IS SHE NOT YOUR KIN?
WELL, BY MARRIAGE. BUT SEEING AS THAT MARRIAGE IS CURRENTLY ON THE ROCKIEST OF ROCKS, I DON'T THINK IT COUNTS ANYMORE. MEDUSA IS NO KIN OF MINE.

AND AS FOR WHY...WELL, LET ME TELL YOU. MAXIMUS THE MAD ONLY REALLY SINGS WHEN EVERYTHING'S IN CHAOS. STABILITY MAKES ME MAXIMUS THE MOPE.
AN OLD FRIEND CAME TO ME RECENTLY--TRITON, YOU KNOW HIM, I THINK HE'S KICKED YOUR ASS BEFORE, TOO. HE GAVE ME SOME INTERESTING NEWS.
BASED ON WHAT HE TOLD ME, IT SEEMS PRETTY CLEAR THAT MEDUSA'S MADE SOME MISTAKES RECENTLY.
INHUMANITY'S AT A TRUE NODE OF CHAOS. A TIPPING POINT. ONE LITTLE NUDGE, AND EVERYTHING FALLS APART.
KLNK
I LIKE BEING THE ONE TO MAKE THAT NUDGE. I LIVE FOR IT.
IT'S, LIKE, MY FAVORITE THING.
IF YOU HELP ME, LASH, IF YOU FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS TO THE LETTER, THEN I GUARAN-DAMN-TEE YOU'LL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO STARE MEDUSA IN THE FACE AND TELL HER SOMETHING THAT WILL JUST ABOUT RIP HER IN HALF.
PROBABLY ABOUT SEVEN WORDS, I THINK...
I DIDN'T DO THIS, MEDUSA--

--YOU DID.
HEY!
ZZK
MEDUSA. WHAT DID YOU DO?
TO BE CONTINUED...

YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS *NEXT?*

THE UNCANNY INHUMANS #13